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1960

**BOROUGH
OF
CHIPPENHAM**



ADDENDUM TO PAGE 11

SEWAGE DISPOSAL PARAGRAPH 3.

Patterdown Sewage Works.

Appearance : Pale yellow, almost clear; slight sediment.
Earthy sewage smell.

Reaction : pH 7.5

	<u>Parts per million</u>
Ammonia (as N)	
Free	3.5
Albuminoid	0.5
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	40
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	66
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs.)	8.5
Nitrogen in Nitrite	0.4 (Very strong reaction)
Nitrogen in Nitrate	11.5
Dissolved Solids	564
Suspended Solids	10
Total	<u>574</u>

Dissolved Oxygen absorbed after 5 days' incubation (B.O.D.) 17
"Impurity" figure - 7.

Westmead Sewage Works.

Appearance : Pale yellow brown, fine brown sediment.
Earthy smell.

Reaction : pH 7.5

	<u>Parts per million</u>
Ammonia (as N)	
Free	3.5
Albuminoid	1.7
Chlorine (as Chlorides)	84
equivalent to Sodium Chloride	138.5
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs.)	10.2
Nitrogen in Nitrite	1.1
Nitrogen in Nitrate	10
Dissolved Solids	668
Suspended Solids	25
Total	<u>693</u>

Dissolved Oxygen absorbed after 5 days' incubation (B.O.D.) 22
"Impurity" figure - $13\frac{1}{2}$

BOROUGH

of

C H I P P E N H A M

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and

S E N I O R P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER

- 1960 -

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, T.D., M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Official Address :- 5, High Street, Chippenham
Tel: Chippenham 2821 Extn. 49.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne and Malmesbury and the Rural Districts of Calne and Chippenham and Malmesbury. Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer, Wiltshire County Council.

(b) SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

S.F. French, Sanitary Inspector's Cert. R.S.I.
Meat & Other Foods Inspector's Cert. R.S.I.

(c) ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

C.W. Pitman, Cert. S.I.B.
Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Cert. R.S.I.
Smoke Inspector's Diploma of the Royal Society of Health.

(d) SECRETARY/CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

(e) The Committee of the Borough Council dealing directly with Public Health matters is:-

The Public Health & Highways Committee.

The Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors,
Chippenham Borough Council.

Mr. Mayor Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st. December, 1960 in accordance with Regulation 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations, 1959.

Copies of the Report are required by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Ministry of Housing & Local Government and H.M. Inspector of Factories; a copy is also sent to the County Medical Officer of Health.

The Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. S.F. French is incorporated and provides detailed information on environmental public health within the Borough.

I wish to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from Mr. French and the Staff of the Council during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. Broomhead,

Medical Officer of Health.



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Once more it is gratifying to note that the more serious infections were conspicuous by their absence, in fact the incidence of notifiable disease was lower than during any year since 1956.

Nevertheless it should be appreciated that this fortunate state of affairs will not continue unless a large proportion of the child population is kept fully immunised against Smallpox, Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis and Whooping Cough.

The importance of giving a re-inforcing dose of Diphtheria prophylactic to children about to enter school is as great as ever. School age is important for a child as he there meets most of the ills of childhood having been removed from the shelter of the family circle.

There seems little doubt that the course of vaccination against Poliomyelitis now advised has produced substantial protection yet, as in Diphtheria, it is most important that parents avail themselves of the opportunities for this prophylaxis and do not wait until an outbreak has occurred before presenting themselves and their children for immunisation.

The speed of modern air travel and the possibility of an incubating case of Smallpox reaching this country without detection makes satisfactory vaccination against this serious and sometimes fatal infection still essential for all infants.

As in 1959, only six cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year under review. The total number of tuberculous persons on the register at the end of 1960 was 88; a reduction as compared with a total of 95 on the register at the end of 1959. This reduction is due to patients moving from the district or having been written off by the County Chest Physician as recovered.

There were 326 live births registered in the Borough during 1960 compared with 282 during 1959. The adjusted birth rate for the Borough for 1960 was 19.3 per 1000; an increase as compared with 17.8 per 1000 for 1959.

The adjusted Death Rate for 1960 was 8.9 per 1000; a reduction as compared with 11.3 per 1000 for 1959. Deaths from Cancer however showed some increase, i.e. 29 as compared with 22 during 1959. Deaths from Coronary disease however showed a slight reduction.

It is unlikely, in the absence of any serious epidemic, the death rate will vary to any degree from year to year. There are however, appreciable differences in the death rates for individual age groups, taking the country as a whole. For example, 41 percent of all deaths in the age group 15-24 are caused by road traffic accidents.

The proportion of the elderly in the community continues to increase and it has been estimated that persons aged 65 years and over amount to nearly 12 per cent of the total population of the country. The welfare of such a large proportion becomes an increasing responsibility for the younger wage earning members of the population. Continued employment of those over normal retiring age of 65 years, provided they are physically and mentally fit, will help to minimise this financial and physical burden.

The expectation of life shows no change since 1954, and it is stated to be 69 years for a man and 74 years for a woman. Greater numbers are however reaching these age levels as the health of the population improves; in other words the population as "grown up or aged".

The Public Health Laboratory Service, under the direction of Dr. Paul Mann at the Manor Hospital, Bath, provides an invaluable service in the investigation and control of infectious diseases. It is only by the regular and routine bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk, foods etc. and pathological specimens that the health of the public is maintained at its present high level. The biological examination of milk, however, should not be unduly emphasised as a means to prevent infection of milk, and it is perhaps appropriate at this stage to comment on Undulant Fever or Brucellosis, a subject of contrasting opinions in medical journals and elsewhere.

Brucellosis, in man, is not included in the list of notifiable infectious diseases, and is an occupational risk of veterinary surgeons, farmers, slaughtermen, and all those engaged in cow keeping. Infection is either by contact with infected animals, and or by the consumption of their milk. Laboratory reports on milk samples forwarded for examination are, of necessity, received approximately six weeks after the sample has been taken. During the interval, the offending animal, or animals, may have gone dry, stopped excreting the organism, or have been removed from the herd, making it difficult, if not impossible, to decide whether the current supply is in fact infected. Pasteurisation of milk, almost a universal practice in the larger communities, has restricted the incidence of Brucellosis amongst the milk consuming public. Nevertheless, the final eradication of the disease in dairy herds, as in the case of Tuberculosis, will finally prevent its spread to human beings.

Although the Borough is within an agricultural area and some distance from the sea, a large proportion of the population nowadays enjoy holidays at the seaside and the Report by the Medical Research Council on the sewage contamination of bathing beaches is of interest. The report concludes that "The risk to health of bathing in sewage contaminated sea water can for all practical purposes be ignored". This happy conclusion however was based chiefly on negative evidence, and pays no attention to the aesthetic feelings of those denied the enjoyment of bathing in a clean and wholesome sea.

The consumption of shellfish cultivated or occurring naturally in sewage contaminated estuaries may cause enteric fever or similar intestinal infections and the public should be aware of these potential dangers to health.

The continued provision of a pure water supply, clean food, air, good housing and adequate nutrition associated with a high rate of immunisation against the more serious infectious diseases will maintain the present excellent state of public health.

On subsequent pages, detailed statistics on birth and death rates, causes of death etc. and the prevalence and control of infectious diseases, will be found. The report by Mr. French, the Senior Public Health Inspector, includes comment on the inspections carried out and samples taken for bacteriological investigation by his staff during the year, a most valuable contribution to the maintenance and the improvement of public health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	1843
Population	16,870
Number of houses (end of 1960 according to the Rate Book)	5481
Rateable Value	£245,793
Sum represented by Penny Rate (estimated 1960/61) . . .	£997

VITAL STATISTICSLIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	172	151	323
Illegitimate	1	2	3
Total	<u>173</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>326</u>

Crude Birth Rate for the Borough	19.3
	per 1000 of the population.
Adjusted Birth Rate for the Borough	19.3
	per 1000 of the population.

Comparative Rate for England & Wales 17.1
per 1000 of the population.

Members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area are included in the population figure shown under the heading "General Statistics". To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from England & Wales as a whole, the crude birth rate and death rate for the Borough are to be multiplied by a "comparability factor" given by the Registrar General. The above statistics have been so corrected.

STILL BIRTHS.

Four still births were recorded during 1960. The rate per 1000 total live and still births is 12.1. The comparative rate for England & Wales for 1960 is given by the Registrar General as 19.7

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	1	4

These children died during their first week of life.

Rate per 1000 live births	12.2
Comparative Rate for England & Wales	21.7

DEATHS

Deaths recorded in the Borough during 1960 were as follows:-

<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
92	80	172

Crude Death Rate for the Borough 10.1
 per 1000 of the population.
 Adjusted Death Rate for the Borough 8.9
 per 1000 of the population.
 Comparative rate for England & Wales 11.3
 per 1000 of the population.

A ruling made by the Registrar General has the effect of excluding from the statistics under this heading, deaths occurring in hospitals for the chronic sick, in all cases where the deceased had been a patient for less than six months. St. Andrews Hospital and Frogwell Hospital have been designated as hospitals for the Chronic Sick.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	1	-	1
Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	3	3	6
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	1	5
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	8	6	14
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	6	15
Coronary disease, angina	15	9	24
Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-
Other heart disease	19	14	33
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	6	7
Bronchitis	7	3	10
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	3	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	3	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	11	21
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of War.	-	-	-
Other circulatory disease.	9	6	15
TOTAL			
	92	80	172

The following table shows the infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1960, together with comparative figures for previous years since 1956.

	1956		1957		1958		1959		1960	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
<u>DISEASE.</u>										
Scarlet Fever	13	12	4	4	11	11	31	31	34	34
Whooping Cough	9	9	23	23	9	9	9	9	4	4
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	2	2	447	447	27	27	399	399	2	2
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	1	8	5	34	26	1	1	2	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	25	25	10	10	12	12	27	27	18	18
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	2	2	2	20	6	2	-	-	-
Erysipelas	4	4	3	3	4	4	1	1	-	-
Pneumonia	7	7	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1
TOTALS:-	63	62	498	495	121	98	472	470	61	61

a = Numbers originally notified

b = Final numbers after correction.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION STATISTICS

I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer for the following information concerning vaccination against Smallpox.

The following children were vaccinated against Smallpox during 1960.

<u>Under 1 year.</u>	<u>1-4 yrs</u>	<u>5-15 yrs +</u>	<u>Total</u>
278	32	79	389

The National Assistance Act, 1948

Sec. 47 Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It is a pleasure once more to report that it was not found necessary to effect the compulsory removal to hospital of any person under the provisions of this Act.

TUBERCULOSIS

Six cases of Tuberculosis were notified and confirmed by the Chest Physician during 1960. One person, not previously notified as suffering from Tuberculosis, died during the year. Details of age and sex of new cases and mortality during 1960 are as follows:-

<u>AGE PERIODS.</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>MORTALITY</u>			
	<u>RESP.</u>		<u>NON-RESP.</u>		<u>RESP.</u>		<u>NON-RESP.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
0								
1								
5			1					
15								
25								
35		2	1			1		1
45			1					
55								
65 upwards.								
TOTALS:-	3	2	-	1	-	-	1	-

In addition to the new cases notified as primary cases of tuberculosis during the year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the town or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases were living in Chippenham at the end of 1960.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary	35	27	62
Non-Pulmonary	4	22	26
TOTAL.	39	49	88

POLIOMYELITIS - Immunisation Statistics

I am indebted to Dr. C.D.L. Lycett, County Medical Officer of Health for the following information concerning immunisation against Poliomyelitis in Chippenham Borough during the year under review.

Completed infections during 1960.

<u>Persons born</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Third</u>
1943/1960	292	959
1933/1942	193	1242
Before 1933, but who had not reached 40 years of age	948	110
Expectant Mothers	5	42
Others	34	19

Arrangements were extended in February, 1960 to include all persons up to 40 years of age, from which time it was impossible to record separately expectant mothers as they can now register merely under their age groups.

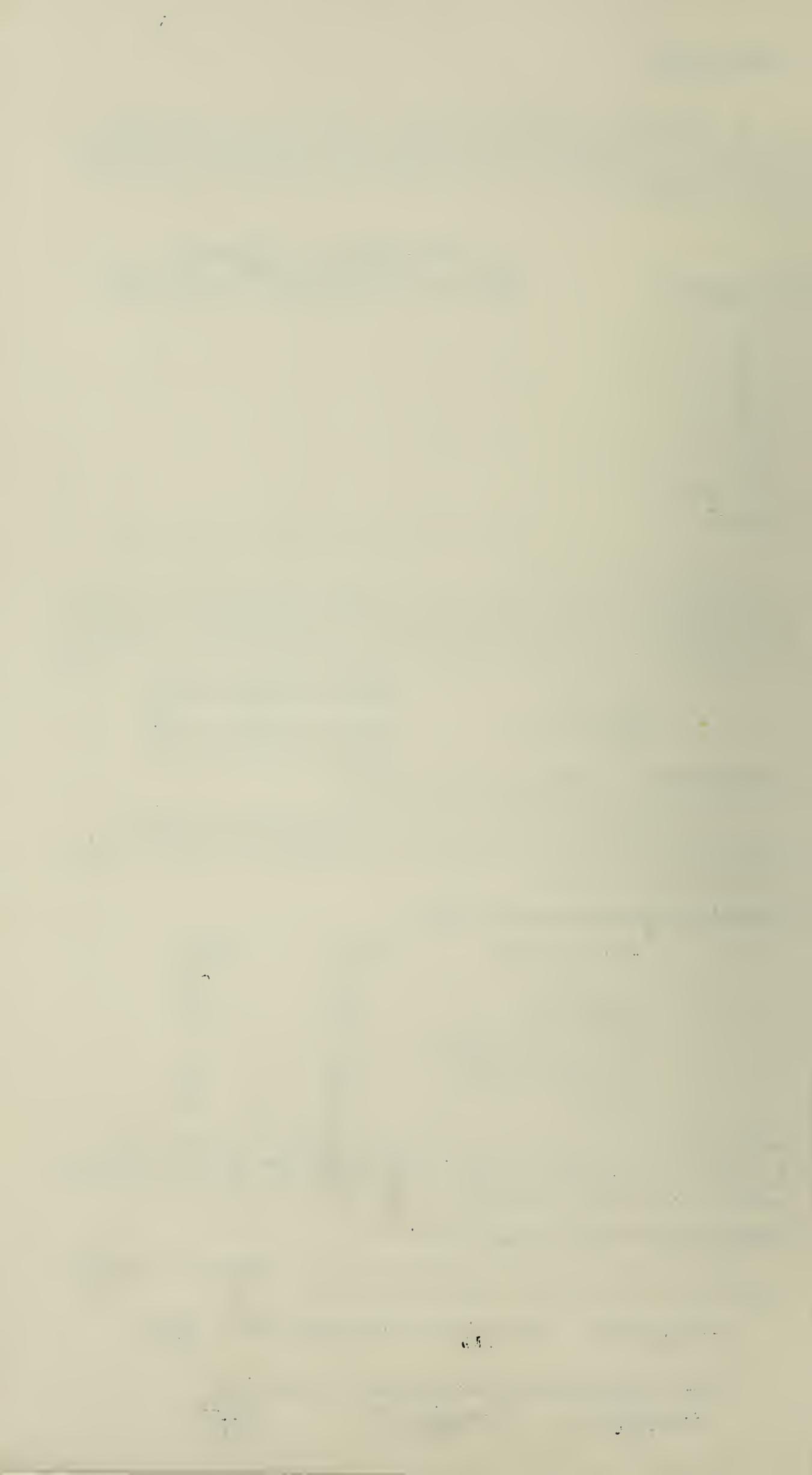
IMMUNISATION STATISTICS FOR 1960.

The following children received primary immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough during 1960.

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>Ages 1-4 yrs</u>	<u>Ages 5-14 yrs</u>	<u>Total</u>
1492	115	44	651

Total immunised child population at 31.12.60.

<u>Ages 0-4 yrs</u>	<u>Ages 5-14 yrs</u>	<u>Total</u>
1668	2237	3235



During the year a total of thirty two applications to the Borough Council have been reviewed on medical grounds, with the following results.

Applications withdrawn	2	(6.25%)
Applicants rehoused	8	(25%)
Applicants still awaiting rehousing . .	21	(65.625%)
Applicants deceased	1	(3.125%)
TOTAL:-		<u>32</u>

In addition to the review of housing applications on medical grounds and the award of medical points under the Council's Points Scheme, Applicants found to be suffering from Tuberculosis or other grave physical disability, are treated as high medical priority cases, and for this purpose the Council earmarks five properties out of every one hundred becoming available for letting. During the year one such case was investigated and rehoused by the Council. This case has been included in the total of 8 shown above against the heading "Applicants rehoused".

The following detail has been compiled by the Council's Housing Manager.

Summary of Lettings of properties for year ended 31st. Dec. 1960.

HOUSES

NEW PROPERTIES

Applicants from waiting list including aged persons' bungalows.	8
Tenants from married quarters	28
Tenants from existing houses	7
Admiralty employees	36
Mid-Wilts. Hospital Management Committee	1
	80

EXISTING PROPERTIES.

Applicants from waiting list including aged persons' bungalows.	22
Tenants from married quarters	15
Employees No. 10 M.U. Hullavington	2
Wilts. Education Committee	2
Admiralty employees	4
	45

MARRIED QUARTERS

Applicants from waiting list	71	71
Total rehoused		<u>196</u>

NUMBER OF PROPERTIES AT 31st. DECEMBER, 1960.

Houses	1475
Flats	84
Aged persons' bungalows	75
Married Quarters	440
	<u>2074</u>
Garages occupied	231

I am grateful to Mr. C.R. Phillips, Borough Surveyor, for the following detail concerning Water Supplies, Sewage and Refuse Disposal.

WATER SUPPLIES.

1. The present sources used by this Council for water supply purposes are those sited at Ivyfields and Westmead Waterworks. At Ivyfields, water is obtained from three boreholes of various depths of approximately 150 feet to 180 feet, and at Westmead from one borehole 187 feet deep, all in Oolitic Limestone.
2. The total yield of the sources mentioned above is set at a minimum of 3,000,000 gallons per day. When the underground storage of these sources is full, this yield may be as much as 4,000,000 gallons per day or more.
3. Chlorination is undertaken with a view to obtaining a residual in the water leaving the pumping stations of .4 parts per million to obtain 0.2 parts per million at the consumers point of delivery.
4. Bulk supplies are given to the undermentioned adjacent authorities and the figures quoted are the average daily supply with maximum daily supplies during 1960.

	<u>Daily Average</u>	<u>Maximum Daily Average</u>
Calne & Chippenham R.D.C.	768,000	1,100,000
Trowbridge & Melksham Water Board.	247,000	254,000
Bradford Melksham & District R.D.C.	169,000	191,000
Government Departments at Hawthorn.	218,000	300,000
Government Temporary Housing.	229,000	308,000

5. Private supplies are existing at the following premises.

Messrs. Nesmilk Ltd.,
The Wiltshire Bacon Co. Ltd.
The Chippenham Sanitary Laundry Co. Ltd.

To the best of my knowledge these supplies are not used for drinking purposes and are devoted to industrial use.

6. As I have already advised the Council and others concerned, additional sources of supply should be obtained to augment the Council's existing sources mentioned above which I consider to be inadequate to meet the expected demand of supply even before 1970 mentioned in the Ministry's review of 1947. My reports of March 1955 and late 1959 state my views clearly and are already in the hands of the Ministry of Housing & Local Government.

7. The development of the Waterworks as set out in my report of 1955 is still being pursued by the Council, and at the present time the following works are in hand:-

The new 1,000,000 gallons service reservoir at Hardenhuish is nearing completion.

The new pumping plant for the Ivyfields Pumping Station is expected to be delivered in 1961; and

The reconstruction of the Pumping Station Buildings and the extension of the filtration plant will be commenced in the Summer of 1961.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

1. Population 1959/60	16,870
2. Private houses owned by service departments.	Nil
3. Total houses : 5,863	
4. Houses supplied with water by the Borough Council : 5,863	
5. Houses supplied with water by other authorities :	Nil
6. Total houses supplied with water : 5,863	
7. Estimated percentage of population supplied : 100%	
8. New connections made during year	$\begin{cases} 183 & \text{Private houses} \\ 80 & \text{Council houses} \\ - & \text{Business premises} \end{cases}$
9. The water is not plumbo solvent.	

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

1. Two Sewage Disposal Works serve the Borough of Chippenham and some of the fringe area and are situated at Patterdown and Westmead.
2. The Council have instructed Consultant Engineers (Messrs. Harvey McGill & Hayes to prepare a preliminary report on the sewers and sewage disposal facilities of the town. The report is awaited and expected during May 1961.
3. The effluents of both sewage disposal works are discharged to the River Avon and I attach copies of the chemical analyses recently carried out by the River Board. These effluents are considered unsatisfactory as the Works are grossly overloaded.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

1. Refuse collection in the Borough continues to be carried out by two covered vehicles. The collection of house and trade refuse is carried out weekly and additional collections are made from premises such as cafes, food shops etc. where food is being handled. This work is under continuous review to re-route collection to deal with new houses erected in the Borough.
2. Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two sites; the disused river channels and low lying land at Westmead and the old Canal at Englands. At both tips the handling and covering of refuse is done mechanically and is proving satisfactory.

REFUSE DISPOSAL (Continued)

3. Full use is made of insecticides in refuse collection and as tip dressing and eradication of rats is frequently done under the supervision of the Senior Public Health Inspector.
4. Periodical inspections are made of dustbins used by householders and notices are served on those found to be unsuitable. This method has proved satisfactory and the Council makes available dustbins at cost price to householders in the Town.

SWIMMING POOL.

The new Swimming Pool sited at Monkton Park was completed in May, 1960 being opened to the public for the first time on the 28th. May, 1960.

The Pool is 165 feet long and 60 feet wide being 3 feet deep at the shallow end and 12 feet in the diving pit. More than two thirds of the area is less than 5 feet 6 inches in depth.

The Swimming Pool is equipped with changing cubicles on a "dry and wet side" system with conveniences, washhand basins, showers and footbath where bathers leave the cubicles to enter the bathing area.

The water in the Pool is obtained from the Council's water mains and all make-up water is obtained from the same source. The method of circulation is comparatively new in this country being delivered to the Pool through a central channel running the whole length of the floor of the Pool. The water is returned for treatment by passing over the scum channels on the two long sides of the Pool and thence to balancing tanks to be pumped to the filtration plant.

The treatment plant consists of six pressure filters capable of dealing with the whole contents of the Pool (360,000 gallons) in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Apart from cleaning treatment the plant aims at maintaining a chlorine residual of 1 part per million in the outlet channels and a neutral pH value of 7 under all conditions.

Records of the condition of the water are taken regularly each day at six points in the Pool, and these records throughout the season of 1960 were completely satisfactory. An outstanding feature of conditions was the clarity of the water under all conditions of loading; as on many occasions there were as many as 1,500 in the Swimming Pool area at one time.

R E P O R Tof theP U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

TO: The Mayor, Aldermen and Members
of the Chippenham Town Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present a Report of the
work carried out in my Department during the year 1900.

The tables and particulars conform to the
Ministry's Regulations and Requirements.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

S. F. FRENCH.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

541 Inspections were made of 269 premises in connection with Housing and Nuisances, and as a result, 100 notices were served requiring the abatement of nuisances and housing repairs. 4 Statutory Notices were served.

Most of this work is of a routine nature, but nevertheless is important work. It is unspectacular, and is probably performed without the knowledge of most ratepayers.

Considerable difficulty is experienced in getting notices complied with which involve minor jobbing work. These prosperous times seem to have put the building trade in the position of being able to select it's work.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1960.

1.	<u>Number of New Houses and Flats erected during the year.</u>	
	(a) By Local Authority	- 80
	(b) By Private Enterprise	- 183
2.	<u>Inspection of Dwellings during the year.</u>	
	(i) Inspected for housing defects under P.H. Acts	26
	(ii) - " - - " - Housing Acts	197
	(iii) Number of dwellings found so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation	22
	(iv) Number of dwellings found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	63
3.	<u>Remedy of Defects by Informal Action.</u>	
	Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of Informal Action	71
4.	<u>Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health & Housing Acts).</u>	
	(a) <u>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, & 16 of Housing Act 1936 and Sections 9, 10, 12 Housing Act 1957.</u>	
	(i) Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	NONE
	(b) <u>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</u>	
	(i) Number of dwellings in respect of which formal notices were served	4
	(ii) Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notice	
	(a) by owners	4
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	NONE

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1960 (continued)

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 Housing Act 1936 and Sections 16 & 23 Housing Act 1957.

(i)	Number of Demolition Orders made	16
(ii)	Number of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders	1
(iii)	Number of undertakings accepted	1
(iv)	Number of families re-housed	6
(v)	Number of persons re-housed	20
(vi)	Number of Closing Orders made	3

5. Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957, Parts IV - Overcrowding.

Overcrowding seems to have faded into the background these days. Statutory overcrowding is now virtually non-existent. This, in some measure, may be due to the very low standard laid down. The permitted number is arrived at by a clumsy formula which, in the end, allows a large number of persons to live in a house.

It is time to become realistic about the position. A new and higher standard is called for, and as no national survey has been carried out since 1936, it is hoped the Government may soon decide to ask local authorities to carry out such a survey, using more enlightened standards.

Local authorities could then be asked to tackle energetically this further aspect of the housing problem.

6. Rents Act 1957.

One Certificate of Disrepair was issued under this Act.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The following sites were used during the year:-

Foghamshire	3
Bath Road	1
Saltersford	2
Derriads Lane	3
Hardenhuish Lane	1
Wood Lane	1
Sheldon Road	1

Council's Sites:

Greenway Lane	4
Bath Road	8

All the above caravans are used as dwelling-houses.

Frequent inspections are made of these sites, which generally speaking, are well maintained.

The Council have decided to enlarge the Bath Road site to take a further ten caravans.

As a result of an investigation by Sir Arton Wilson into the problems of caravans used as residential accommodation, came amending legislation in the form of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960. This gives local authorities a firmer control, both from planning and sanitary points of view. Conditions on existing sites were subject to review, and new applicants for site licences must now first obtain planning approval.

Local authorities are encouraged to provide sites and whilst they are not subject to the licensing procedure laid down in the Act, they will, I am sure, have regard to the model standards specified by the Minister with respect to the lay-out, and the provision of facilities, services and equipment.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<u>PREMISES</u>	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Number of</u>		
		<u>Inspns.</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
1) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	15	-	-	-
2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	60	27	6	-
3) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-Workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
	75	27	6	-

FACTORIES ACTS (continued)

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Number of cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	To HM Inspr.	By HM Inspr.	Prosecu- tions
Want of Cleanliness (S1)	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temp. (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Vent. (S4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	7	-	-	-

Sixty-two observations were made and informal action taken regarding the emission of smoke from the chimneys of industrial premises.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disinfection was carried out in nine homes and one hospital (thirteen times) after infectious diseases. Bedding and similar articles are treated by steam or destroyed when this is considered necessary. No charge is made for fumigation or steam disinfection when this done because of infectious disease.

62 visits of inquiry were made in connection with Infectious Diseases.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER 1957.

The Council accepted delegation from the County Council of this Order under which all waste food fed to animals and poultry must be boiled for at least one hour in approved and licensed equipment. There are twelve pig-keepers in the Borough (six only are actually processing waste food) and these are inspected from time to time in connection with the enforcement of the Order. Reasonable precautions are taken to prevent nuisances arising.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951.

Two licences were issued to keep pet shops. These premises are inspected, although the only pets sold are cage-birds, gold-fish and tortoises.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Some verminous infestations were dealt with by the use of D.D.T. and Garmexane Insecticides.

In 17 cases, advice and assistance was given in connection with fly and wasp infestations.

RODENT CONTROL.

The methods used have, on the whole, become standardised throughout the country, and are as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Poisons used are Zinc Phosphide, Arsenious Oxide, Warfarin, A.N.T.U. and Red Squill.

The sewers, brooks and sewage outfall works are now treated as a routine measure twice yearly, the refuse tips are closely watched and treated as often as may be necessary.

The following details are in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

	Type of Property					Agri-cul-tural.	
	Non-Agricultural				Total of Cols. 1,2,3.		
	Local Authy.	Dwelling Houses (incl. Cncl. Hses.)	All other (incl. business premises.)				
1. Number of properties in L.A's Dist. (Notes 1 and 2).	15	5298	847	6160	4		
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of:- (a) Notification (b) Otherwise	3 12	68 289	15 127	86 428	2 2		
3. Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections.	32	435	163	630	8		
4. Number of properties inspected (in Sec. 2) which were found to be infested by:- (a) Rats - Major Minor (b) Mice - Major Minor	— 10 — —	— 51 — 14	— 13 — 8	— 74 — 22	— — — —		
5. Number of infested properties (in Sec. 4) treated by L.A.	10	65	21	96	—		
6. Total treatments carried out incl. re-treatments	17	69	21	107	—		

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MEAT INSPECTION

The Bacon Factory continues to maintain the heavy slaughtering of the last few years. The Wiltshire Bacon Company, during the year, slaughtered some 37987 pigs on their premises. 10119 were killed at the slaughterhouse until recently occupied by Messrs. Spear Bros. and Clark Ltd., and now used by Messrs. Bowyers (Wiltshire Bacon) Ltd.

A system of detention is operated at the Bacon Factory and Pig slaughterhouses. Factory operatives, instructed by the Public Health Inspectors, and working under their control, examine the pigs during the course of slaughter, incising the head and offal glands. Animals which show any disease or abnormalities in carcase or organs are detained and brought to the attention of the inspector while he is engaged on routine meat inspection. This system of detention is the best that can be adopted under the circumstances, obviates full time meat inspectors at the factory and is working well in practice. All offals are inspected by Local Authority Officers before leaving the slaughterhouses.

At the Butchers' slaughterhouse one hundred per cent meat inspection is carried out.

On the 1st January 1959 the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958 came into operation.

These Regulations were designed to secure the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions in connection with the construction and operation of slaughterhouses and the handling of meat therein. They impose upon occupiers of slaughterhouses requirements as to the layout, drainage, equipment, maintenance, cleanliness, ventilation, lighting, water supply, management and personal hygiene, and provides for safeguards against the infliction of unnecessary suffering.

During the year considerable works were carried out at all three slaughterhouses, and they were made to comply with the new regulations.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958.

Twenty-six persons were licensed to slaughter animals.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED 1960.

	<u>Cattle excluding cows.</u>	<u>Cows.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
No. killed (if known)	879	19	26	1830	48954
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>Tuberculosis &</u> <u>Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	2	3	88
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	90	10	1	49	3304
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	10.2%	57.8%	11.%	2.8%	6.9%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	1901
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.01%	-	-	-	3.8%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	11	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	11	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

The eradication of tuberculosis from cattle and pigs is now a definite possibility in the near future. In 1960 the percentage wholly condemned for this reason in Chippenham was the lowest ever.

In 1937 one pig in every 127 was condemned because of tuberculosis - last year the figure was one in 9790.

Of 2972 cattle slaughtered during the past four years not one was condemned because of tuberculosis.

MEAT CONDEMNED (HOME KILLED) DURING 1960.

		T.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
<u>BOVINE</u>					
1	Carcase		4	1	9
5	Heads		1	1	20
61	Livers		4	3	15
38	Pt. Livers		1	-	27
	Offal			2	7
	Meat		1	3	8
<u>PIGS</u>					
85	Carcasses	3	18	1	7
1175	Heads	6	19	1	4
36	Livers			3	25
	Mes/Plucks	15	19	-	25
	Meat	1	14	2	20
<u>SHEEP</u>					
3	Carcasses		1	1	10
37	Livers			2	25
	Meat				12
<u>CALVES</u>					
2	Carcasses			2	26
	Meat				16
	TOTAL	29	9	3	4

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS.

Routine examination of beef carcasses and organs is carried out to detect the parasite of Cysticercus Bovis as required by the Ministry of Food. Cysticercus Bovis is the cystic stage of taenia saginata, the tapeworm of man. During the year eleven carcasses were found to be infected, 1.2%, the cysts being located in the head in three cases, in the diaphragm in one case and in the heart in seven cases. Of the cysts found five were viable and six degenerated. Where infestation is localised, the part of the carcase or the organ affected is rejected as unfit for human consumption; the remainder of the carcase is placed in cold storage at a temperature not exceeding 20°F for a period of three weeks, and then released for human consumption. Failing refrigeration, the entire carcase and offal is rejected.

Method of disposal of condemned food.

All carcases and offals found at the Bacon Factories and Slaughterhouses to be unfit for human consumption are mutilated and dyed prior to disposal. Tinned and other packaged foodstuffs are collected and disposed of on the Council's Refuse Tip.

MISCELLANEOUS GOODS.

918	lbs Bacon	56	lbs Cheese
150	lbs Cooked Ham	106	Tins Vegetables
361	lbs Tinned Meats	11	Tins Fish
144	lbs Beef	14	Pkts. Fish
4	sides Green Bacon	165	Tins Fruit
336	lbs Lard	17	Tins Milk
24	lbs Sausages	5	Tins Soups, Coffee etc.
14	lbs Chickens	35	lbs Sweets

FOOD PREMISES.

Inspections made to supervise the preparation, handling or storage of food in shops, restaurants, bakehouses, markets and factory canteens totalled 752.

25 Notices were served for contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Many of these require the maintenance or replacement of the necessary equipment. Every opportunity is taken to instruct personnel on the frequent and intelligent use of this equipment and the principles of hygiene.

The following list shows the matters with which these Notices were concerned:-

- Wash-hand basins, absence of hot water.
- Locker accommodation for outdoor clothing.
- Defective or dirty walls, floors, ceilings and woodwork.
- Impervious surfaces to counters and tables.
- First Aid Kits, provision of.
- Dirty Equipment.
- Refuse Bins, provision of.
- Vehicles.
- Handwashing notices.

The Food Hygiene Regulations have now been in operation for some five years, and traders generally are co-operating willingly in meeting the problems that have to be tackled. Generally speaking the standard is rising all the time. Food hygiene is considered to be good business.

The public too, I am quite sure, are becoming more and more "food hygiene" minded. They can help by ceasing to trade at shops failing to keep up good standards of hygiene. Furthermore, they can be of some help if they will bring their complaints to me, and this they are invited to do.

Constant supervision is exercised over the stalls retailing foodstuffs in the weekly market.

Litter baskets are provided by the Council in the vicinity of the fried fish shops and milk vending machines in an effort to keep the streets tidy.

In 1959 the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food issued to local authorities the two first food hygiene codes of practice provided for in the Food and Drugs Act 1955, dealing with "Hygiene in the retail meat trade". Further codes have now been issued dealing with "Hygiene in the retail fish trade".

The preamble to both codes makes it clear that they have no statutory force, but the codes serve a very useful purpose. In fact, in order to supplement the visits of the Public Health Inspectors it was decided to purchase sufficient copies of the booklets for distribution among the town's butchers and fishmongers.

Number of food premises by type of business

General Grocery	45	Butchers	17
Hotels, Cafes,		Licensed Premises	28
Restaurants	15	Sweets	13
Bakers, Confectioners	9	Fruit & Vegetables	9
Fish Fryers	5	Fishmongers	4
Slaughterhouses	2	Dairies	5

Number of food premises, by type, registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955:-

Preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food	21
Manufacture and sale of ice-cream	1
Sale of ice-cream	55

MILK AND DAIRIES.

Number of Registered Dairies	9
Number of Registered Distributors	9
Number of 'T.T.' Dealers' Licences	11
Number of 'T.T.' Supplementary Dealers' Licences	1
Number of Pasteurised Dealers' Licences	14
Number of Pasteurised Supplementary Dealers' Licences	1
Number of Sterilised Dealers' Licences	6
Number of Sterilised Supplementary Dealers' Licences	1
Number of Pasteurisation Plants	2
Number of 'T.T.' samples examined (Methylene Blue)	37
Number of inspections made during the year	42

Of the thirty-seven samples of T.T. milks taken, two failed the standard required by the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949/1950, and one the standard (after October 1st) prescribed in the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960. Failures are notified to the County Milk Regulations Officer in order that investigations can be made on the producers' premises by the Milk Production Advisory Officers.

As a check on the efficiency of milk bottle cleansing three sets were submitted for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory. Court proceedings were instituted against one dairyman in respect of a foreign object in a bottle of milk (i.e. a snail). Result: Penalty of £10.

Difficulty is experienced at the bottle washing plants due to the filthy condition of many bottles when returned. Householders are again asked to rinse milk bottles directly they are emptied, not to use them for any other purposes, and to return them to the distributors promptly.

Milk from refrigerated machines has become very popular. Two of these machines are installed in the town and thirteen in a Works. The disposable cartons are filled and hygienically sealed in the dairy. This system overcomes the difficulties experienced by the fouling of milk bottles in heavy industrial factories. The machines are cleansed and replenished daily. Regular samples are taken for bacteriological examination.

The Borough is, of course, in a specified area. All milk now sold by retail must be "specially designated" milk, (that is pasteurised, sterilised, or tuberculin tested milk).

ICE-CREAM.

Number of premises registered and used for manufacture and sale	1
Number of premises registered for sale only	55
Inspection of premises	82
Number of samples	72

All the samples taken were satisfactory and placed in Provisional Grade 1.

As is so well-known, the gradings are provisional only, and no bacteriological standards have yet been prescribed. The Ministry are being pressed in some quarters to strengthen the Regulations by fixing a standard which could be enforced.

